المجلس الإسلامي
Islamic Council

11 November 1992

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed
Prime Minister of Malaysia

Excellency,

Assalaam Alaikum wa Rahmatullah wa Barakatuhu.

I should like to say how much your efforts concerning the tragic situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina are appreciated, and, indeed, on a wider scale, your commitment to the cause of equitable justice throughout the Third World. You have spoken clearly and frankly on the crucial issues which the world is facing and, in my opinion, you have put to shame the many leaders who have failed to speak out.

I have learnt that you are to visit Tunisia and I should like to bring to your attention the dismal record of the Tunisian government on human rights. Amnesty International, among other leading human rights organisations (eg, Middle East Watch, the International Human Rights Law Group, the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights), has published many reports on the situation, including, for example, 'Tunisia - Prolonged Incommunicado Detention and Torture' (March 1992) , the contents of which are self-explicit from the title, and, in a press release dated 4 March 1992 said that 'the overwhelming impression is that the government itself is condoning these widespread human rights violations'.

Many innocent Tunisians continue to suffer victimisation, repression and worse, wrongful imprisonment, torture and even death, and I feel confident that you will feel able to raise this issue with your counterpart in Tunisia.

May Allah grant you good health and a long life and crown your efforts in His cause with success.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

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